

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 02477 262059Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 IO-14 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00

XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-02

PRS-01 /096 W

-----034345 262102Z /64

R 262002Z SEP 77

FM AMCONSUL TORONTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6331

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

UNCLAS TORONTO 2477

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PINT, SOPN, CA, JA

SUBJECT: ONTARIO MISSION TO JAPAN FACING CONCERN OVER CANADIAN
UNITY

1. TORONTO GZ AND TORONTO STAR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

COLUMNISTS CLAIRE HOY AND JONATHAN MANTHORPE BOTH FILED STORIES
FROM TOKYO IN SEPTEMBER 26 PAPERS STRESSING STATEMENTS OF
CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN BRUCE RANKIN AT BRIEFING FOR
ONTARIO TRADE DELEGATION LED BY PREMIER WILLIAM DAVIS.
RANKIN REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD GROUP TO BE "CANADIANS FIRST AND
FROM ONTARIO SECOND" AS THE JAPANESE "FIND OUR SYSTEM BAFFLING
ENOUGH" AND "FLAUNTING OUR REGIONALISM ABROAD IS NOT IN
OUR BEST INTERESTS."

2. PREMIER DAVIS PLANS A MAJOR SPEECH TO BUSINESSMEN IN TOKYO
ON CANADIAN UNITY AND THE COLUMNISTS SUGGEST ONTARIO WILL HAVE
AN UPHILL BATTLE TO OVERCOME THE "HARDNOSED AND PESSIMISTIC
VIEW OF CANADA" WHICH HAS RESULTED FROM A VERY UNFAVORABLE REPORT
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PAGE 02 TORONT 02477 262059Z

ON THE CANADIAN ECONOMY, LABOR RELATIONS AND WORK HABITS GIVEN
TO JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADERS LAST YEAR.

3. SITUATION, AS WELL AS AMBASSADOR RANKIN'S PRICKLY
SENSITIVITY REPORTED TO BE INFLUENCED ALSO BY QUEBEC FOOD SALES
MISSION WHICH RECENTLY SPENT THREE WEEKS IN JAPAN. QUEBEC GROUP,
ACCORDING TO MANTHORPE, THOROUGHLY CONFUSED HIGHLY CENTRALIST

JAPANESE BY INSISTING ON MAKING ALL OFFICIAL SPEECHES IN
FRENCH, A "BAFFLING" OCCURANCE TO THE JAPANESE FOR A "REGIONAL
GROUP... FROM A PREDOMINATLY ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY."
DIGGINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PROVINCE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770350-0356
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From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770920/aaaaaqrs.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 09c6ae3d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1129307
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ONTARIO MISSION TO JAPAN FACING CONCERN OVER CANADIAN UNITY
TAGS: ETRD, PINT, SOPN, CA, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/09c6ae3d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009